

## **New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual**

Manual:	NJAC	NJ Administrative Code Excerpts	Effective
Title	10	Human Services	Date:
Chapter	122	Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers	8/6/2009
Subchapter:	9	Transportation Requirements	
Section	5	Vehicle-related safety practices (N.J.A.C. 10:122-9.5)	

## §10:122-9.5 Vehicle-related safety practices

- (a) Children shall never be left unattended in a vehicle.
- (b) Children shall be accepted and discharged from the curbside of the vehicle.
- (c) The interior and exterior of each vehicle shall be maintained in clean and safe condition, with clear passage to operable doors.
- (d) All vehicles that are utilized to transport children shall be equipped with car seats (child passenger restraint systems) and/or booster seats that meet Federal motor vehicle safety standards, as appropriate for the age and weight of the children transported, in accordance with applicable provisions of Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) law, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:3-76.2a and f.
- (e) The driver shall not transport more persons, including children and adults, than:
  - 1. The occupancy of the Type I School Bus, as indicated by the vehicle manufacturer; or
  - 2. The occupancy of the Type II School Bus or School Vehicle or other approved vehicle, as determined by the number of operable seat belts.
- (f) The driver of and/or additional adult(s) on the Type I School Bus shall ensure that:
  - 1. All passengers are seated and remain seated when the bus is in motion; and
  - 2. All passengers below 18 months of age are secured in the proper restraint system, as specified in (d) above, when the bus is in motion.
- (g) The driver of and/or additional adult(s) on the Type II School Bus, School Vehicle and private passenger vehicle shall ensure that:

- 1. All passengers are seated and remain seated when the vehicle is in motion; and
- 2. Each child is secured in an operable seat belt or proper restraint system or booster seat, if applicable as specified in (d) above, when the vehicle is in motion.
- (h) There shall be no standees in any vehicle transporting children.
- (i) The center shall conduct two emergency evacuation drills each year for passengers who ride the Type I or Type II School Bus.
- (j) The driver shall conduct a daily check of the vehicle, which shall include all safety equipment, to ensure that the vehicle is in sound operating condition.
- (k) The driver shall conduct a check of the vehicle, after each run is completed, to ensure that no child has been left on the vehicle.